

CLAIMS:

1. A method for reducing pulp to powder which comprises grinding pulp by means of a vertical roller mill to produce powdered pulp.

2. A method for reducing pulp to powder as claimed in claim 1 wherein the powdered pulp has an average particle diameter of 20 to 300  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. A method for reducing pulp to powder as claimed in claim 1 wherein the powdered pulp has an average particle diameter of 60 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. A process for the production of a cellulose ether wherein the powdered pulp obtained by a method as claimed in claim 1 is used as a starting material.

5. A process for the production of a cellulose ether wherein the powdered pulp obtained by a method as claimed in claim 2 is used as a starting material.

6. A process for the production of a cellulose ether wherein the powdered pulp obtained by a method as claimed in claim 3 is used as a starting material.